

Dear NOW Community,
Hi All,

2023 09 10

greetings from Helsinki. Autumn has brought good news, the NOW book is published. It's beautiful. Thanks so much to all the editors, the contributors and all the community for making this happen.

All the authors should have received a link to an electronic version of the book and paper books should be coming within the next month or so. If you are missing the link, get in touch with Isaac Casanovas Vilar, the lead editor.

Meanwhile NOW is well and steadily moving forward. Over the last year we've continuously had about ten active editors making updates each month, fewer in summer months. A few large revisions are ongoing, particularly of China and East African data. South American data is notably expanding along with Oscar Wilson's thesis work. The long intended major revision of North American composite localities is hopefully getting hands on soon.

Further in the plans is to bring more of palaeobotany information to the database. NOW will stay focused on fossil mammal localities, but more of plant related information associated with these localities is coming as is associated information about archaeology for the time periods where humans and their ancestors were around. NOW already has a dedicated tab for Archaeology since a few years ago and fields for vegetation under Climate tab. And separate tab dedicated to vegetation is in the plans for the coming years. Let know if you have any ideas, data collections or thoughts in relation to this or in general, as always.

The NOW office is well and happy to welcome Yanell Braumuller, who joined as a data curator and along with the team will be coordinating systematic checks of NOW data as well as solving reports of potential errors or issues being flagged. Yanell is a PhD student at the University of Leiden. Welcome Yanell!

As always, if you notice anything in the data that potentially needs attention, get in touch either via "contact" button, or write to Kari Lintulaakso or me. If you are a coordinator and the issue is in the taxonomic group or region of your responsibility – welcome to edit directly in the database as well. NOW updates come via voluntary work, and even some minutes per week from all the community members towards keeping the record up to date matter a lot. Other than that, we'll be in touch with curatorial questions throughout the season, as always.

Be well,
Indrè
The General Coordinator of NOW